

NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA
Department of Industrial
Relations
News For Immediate Release
Contact: Debbie Herbert at
334/242-8609

Employer Tax Credits Available for Hiring Persons with Disabilities

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, October 20, 2003 October is celebrated annually as the National Disability Employment Awareness Month. At the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, we can assist persons with disabilities by offering tax credits to Alabama employers who hire them. Through the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program, an employer may obtain a tax credit of up to \$2,400 a year for hiring a person with a disability.

“There is a large labor pool of skilled, untapped persons that employers may wish to consider to fill job vacancies,” says Phyllis Kennedy, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. “By hiring a person with a disability, businesses can take advantage of this tax credit program.”

To be certified as eligible for the program, a disabled person must have completed, or is completing, rehabilitative services with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services or the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. To learn more about the tax credit incentives call 334/353-8030 or go to <http://es.dir.alabama.gov/news.html> for more information.

Since the program began in October 1996, Alabama employers have hired nearly 3,000 persons with disabilities, resulting in tax credits of over \$7 million dollars.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: www.dir.state.al.us.